



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Reclassification of Justifiable Ruling
(Update)**

The Birmingham Police Department reports detectives have received a ruling in the homicide of **Jonathan Dancer (26), b/m of Birmingham, Alabama**. The incident occurred on March 16, 2022 in the 6400 block of Division Avenue.

Detectives presented the case to the Jefferson County District Attorney's office for review. Following the assessment, the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office ruled the actions justifiable self-defense. This investigation is reclassified as a Justified Death Investigation.

The Birmingham Police Department investigated 27 murders and conducted 3 justifiable death investigations in 2022.

Homicide Investigation

The Birmingham Police Department reports detectives are conducting a homicide investigation. The incident occurred on Wednesday, March 16, 2022 in the 6400 block of Division Avenue.

The victim has been identified as Johnathan Dancer, (26), b/m of Birmingham, Alabama.

At approximately 11:40 a.m., officers from the East Precinct responded to the location on a call of a person shot. Officers arrived and discovered Johnathan Dancer laying on the ground unresponsive. Birmingham Fire and Rescue transported the victim to UAB Hospital. Shortly after arrival, detectives were notified by hospital staff that Dancer succumb to his injuries.

The preliminary investigation suggests a physical altercation occurred prior to the victim being shot by the suspect. A suspect was taken into custody in connection to this incident. Updates will be provided as this case develops.

If there is anyone who has information pertaining to the case, please contact the B.P.D. Homicide Unit @ [205-254-1764](tel:205-254-1764) or Crime Stoppers @ [205-254-7777](tel:205-254-7777).

Anonymous tips can also be submitted to Crime Stoppers through the Birmingham Police Department's Mobile App on Android or IOS devices. Updates will be provided as information comes available.

This is Birmingham's 27th murder investigation of 2022 with 2 justifiable death investigation.

The Birmingham Police Department adheres to FBI Uniform Crime Reporting guidelines set for all law enforcement agencies across the United States. FBI Uniform Crime Reporting guidelines do not require law enforcement agencies to include justifiable death investigations into the total homicide investigations counts.

The information is based on a preliminary and ongoing investigation, which continues to evolve as investigators interview witnesses, review physical and electronic records, and analyze forensic evidence. The Department's understanding of the facts and circumstances may change as additional evidence is collected and analyzed

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